

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated March 18, 2008 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claim 1 is hereby amended; claims 3-6 were previously canceled; and no claims are added. Accordingly, claims 1, 2 and 7 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

The Office objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for informalities noted therein. Applicants have amended Figure 4 as required in the Office Action. As such, Applicants request that the objection regarding the drawings be withdrawn. Applicants will file formal drawings upon approval of the attached drawing of Figure 4 from the Office.

The Office rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants have amended claim 1 and request that the Office withdraw the rejection.

The Office rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Korean Patent Publication No. P1996-0023421 to Daewoo Electronics co., Ltd. (hereinafter "*Daewoo*"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request reconsideration.

Independent claim 1 is allowable over the cited reference in that claim 1 recites a method for controlling a washing machine comprising, at least, "resetting the wash cycle upon detection of an open state of the door during the wash cycle before a predetermined point of the wash cycle." *Daewoo* does not teach at least this feature of the claimed invention.

In contrast, *Daewoo* discloses "if the load ... is greater than the load set already, resetting a water level and a washing time period according to the sensed load." *Daewoo* at abstract. Thus, *Daewoo* does not teach "resetting the wash cycle upon detection of an open state of the door during the wash cycle before a predetermined point of the wash cycle," as recited in claim 1, because *Daewoo* resets the water level if the sensed load is greater than the load set. For

at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request the that the Office withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection of independent claim 1.

The Office rejects claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Daewoo* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,768,728 to Harwood et al. (hereinafter "*Harwood*"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request reconsideration.

Harwood fails to cure the deficiencies of *Daewoo*. *Harwood* teaches "a method of determining a suitable fluid level for washing a load of laundry." *Harwood* col. 2, lines 48-50. There is absolutely no teaching or suggestion in *Harwood* of "resetting the wash cycle upon detection of an open state of the door during the wash cycle before a predetermined point of the wash cycle," as recited in independent claim 1.

Indeed, the Office only relied on *Harwood* to disclose "determining the load of laundry prior to admitting the water." Office Action at p. 3, ¶7. Because none of the cited references, either individually or in combination, teaches or suggests each and every element of independent claim 1, they also fail to teach or suggest each and every element of claim 7, which depends from claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Office to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claim 7.

The Office rejects claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Daewoo* in view of Japanese Patent Publication No. 06-039183 to Toru. (hereinafter "*Toru*"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request reconsideration.

Toru fails to cure the deficiencies of *Daewoo*. *Toru* teaches "setting ... the washing water stream and executing the washing in accordance with this set water stream." *Toru* at Abstract. There is absolutely no teaching or suggestion in *Toru* of "resetting the wash cycle upon detection of an open state of the door during the wash cycle before a predetermined point of the wash cycle," as recited in independent claim 1.

Indeed, the Office only relied on *Toru* to disclose "sensing the quantity of laundry at certain respectively specified intervals." Office Action at p. 3, ¶9. Because none of the cited references, either individually or in combination, teaches or suggests each and every element of

independent claim 1, they also fail to teach or suggest each and every element of claim 2, which depends from claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Office to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claim 2.


The application is in condition for allowance. Early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: June 18, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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independent claim 1, they also fail to teach or suggest each and every element of claim 2, which depends from claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Office to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claim 2.


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